

Whig & Chronicle.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22, 1875.

FIELD AND FARM.
DOG-ONEDNESS.

For and Roy on the Dog Fund Question.

To the Editors of the Chronicle:

That "Roy" letter which appeared in the CHRONICLE of the 10th, was the dogliest piece of literature I have ever seen. I feel compelled to criticize it, both as to abstract expression and logical sequence.

Substantially "Roy" tells us that the "devil, generally, has got into the dogs, particularly, that a dog (or two) will travel eight or nine miles and kill a whole flock of sheep" just for the fun of the thing, and for the sheep's blood. That one old dog that had contracted the habit, continued it when he was so old he could not do or was not fit for anything else. That "Wash Price, of our district, tracked a dog two miles a year ago and killed it, but not until it had killed thirty lambs." Note the fact, that was fifteen lambs to the mile, or a lamb for each 117 yards.

Well, dogs are good and valuable animals. The dog, as a general thing, has more real good faith about him than has a good average man. A man—even a Christian one, by profession—will betray and desert his friend in times of severe adverse storms, and whine and complain under good providential treatment; but a dog, even a sort of a mean one, will forgive the unjust cruelty of his beggar master, and lick the hand from which has just fallen the cruel rod of punishment. Yes, and such a dog will follow that master, after all others desert him, and constitute the sole comforter at the beggar and outcast's grave.

But, to have these religious dog-references; "Roy" tells us, that the \$100,000 of "Dog-revenue" ought to be resolved, legislatively, into a sort of "Dog Savings Bank Fund," from which those who mourn for dead sheep may cause the stomachs of their purses to swell out with a puffiness. My dear Roy, that would never, never do! Why, especially, the avenging Democratic scrub-sheep owners of the State would employ their own private dogs to worry, especially, all their old and poor muttoms to death, so as to realize fat Cottswold and Merino prices for them, out of the "Dog-Funds"—Yes "Sir Roy," a poor old sheep, within three days of honorable death by starvation or rot, "murdered" in the way I say would draw as big a "Post Mortem" price as the most thorough bred "Bell-wether," fat enough to "drag the ground." It would be more than like New York's offer, last year, of 50 cents for each un-collared dog arrested and delivered at the City "Mad Dog Pound."

How was it? Why, all the little and old dogs within 20 or 30 miles of the city were brought in, and sold to the "City-Dog-killing Department" at 50 cents a head. In a logical sense, good mutton is easily digested and is a nutritious and valuable food. People are fond of it. It may be, that much of the very best fat now adhering to Roy's ribs settled there, as a direct mutton-revolt (it is the case with "Roy"). Well, dogs have good sense, and also good tastes and a good appetite. No wonder they go for good fat sheep. But I admit, that it will be a better thing to have all our necessary muttoms slaughtered in a proper manner and in what we call regular mutton seasons. I am, therefore, in favor of such police regulations as will restrain bad dogs and foster and fatten good ones.

But, Mr. "Roy," your "dog-oned" taxation policy will not reach the desired end. The true policy is, or should be, to fence against dogs of bad morals and unnaturally ferocious and blood-thirsty appetites. O, certainly! I am serious in this. All our good grazing woodlands ought to be enclosed with six foot picket fences. If what is said as to the value of sheep killed annually by dogs be true, such value, for two years, would picket fence most of our woodlands. That's the way, anyhow, to raise sheep. Clear out the under-brush, and set with mixed grasses, and enclose 100 acres thus of any of our average hilly woodlands, with a picket fence (it will cost not more than \$1.50 per rod), and it will make a secure, living home for as many sheep as now have to live poorly and get hit to death "by dogs" on one or two thousand acres of open "dog territory."

I'll tell you, "Roy," what's a fact, our "lost Lunatic Asylum" Legislature, or some other one more or less sensible, ought to confiscate the sheep of all those who turn their flocks out into the wild hills; and, if the owner be a "rag-baby" Democrat, tax him in addition. Yes, "my countrymen," confiscate his wild muttoms and tax him "smart-money" beside. Yot.

"Roy" on the Dog Question Again.

POWELL'S STATION, Dec. 15, 1875.

To the Editors of the Chronicle:

I see that "Roy" is very much disturbed over my dog article. It's a law in nature that when you attack a herd of animals that each individual member will be molested. That's instinct. I did not expect either to gain the approbation of the dogs or their worshippers, in my article. This dog question has become a nuisance in our State, and I contend it should be so considered by our legislators. When "Roy" looks the matter in the face the problem is "Dogs or Sheep."

Which will you take, friend "Roy?" dogs, I presume. I take sheep in mine, mutton chops, buckskin gloves, and mutton tallow for cuts, bruises, &c., and sheep wool for clothes (I now have some good jeans I wear on Sundays. Dogs are friendly, I admit. Every man should be allowed to keep one dog if he wants it, free of taxation, but where more dogs are kept I think it a good plan to tax them and resolve this tax into a Dog Savings Bank fund. This is precisely what the laws of Pennsylvania provide, for if I am informed correctly, and if that State with its sage and legislative wisdom, don't understand this dog problem bet-

ter than some folks in this county, I admit that I am trumped. To say that the good farmers of East Tennessee would contrive for the execution of all their old, worthless sheep in order to get the benefits of this dog fund is putting rather a low estimate on the honesty of that "time-honored class." If some one did occasionally attempt to poison off a rot-footed, scabby-nosed, bilious old sheep on the State for a genuine Cottswold, would the officials have the same advantage of him that "Roy's" five insurance agent would have of him should he undertake to burn up his property fraudulently and then collect his policy?

"Roy" advises farmers to enclose all their woodlands with "six-foot pickets." (I once heard of a horse who got the lumber part of a blue-stem sprout administered to his back, and not learning to correct the expression, "six-foot wood" on a day?) It will take twenty thousand dollars to fence the woodlands of the Eighth District. "Roy," you "busted" your reputation as a financier when you advised that plan. If you didn't know it, a picket fence will not stand exceeding ten years. You will not find a rod of picket fence in the rural districts of any of our back counties, except it be around house yards. What our Legislature wants to do is to pass a law which will at once adapt itself to the wants of sheep-raisers. For the Legislature to say that no farmer should keep sheep except those who had "six foot" picket fences would be unconstitutional, and for "Roy" or any other man to suggest that plan is simply to gas off, and no more. I say to the Legislature, pass a law—

1. Allowing each family one dog, and taxing all others.

2. Making it a legal act to kill all dogs found straying from home without reasonable excuse.

3. Converting all the money derived from dogs into a "dog fund," from which every man who should lose sheep by dogs could draw for the value of his sheep.

These are my views, and if "Roy" didn't like such a law he might get up a drove of dogs and harness them to a half sled, and start over the snows of Canada on an exploring expedition for the North pole.

ROY.

Wool Growing.

To the Editors of the Chronicle:

Permit me to again trouble you with my jottings by the wayside in Monroe. I am not satisfied our people are doing all they can in the introduction of sheep. There does not seem to be the conviction that sheep pays better than any other stock raised, and that they are more profitable for the amount invested, and the cost of maintenance.

In a long interview with two intelligent wool growers from Indiana a few days since, they state that more clear money is made by raising wool than any other crop grown in that part of the State, as well as in Ohio. From a careful investigation made by them, they are of the opinion we can raise wool in our climate cheaper than any portion of our country, not excepting Mexico, where P. C. Armijo sold 50¢ per pound last year, and over two million sheep. The great drawback to our success in wool growing has been secured by the tax on dogs—which it has taken a long time to bring about, as our people, a portion of the hair producing, are like the whiskey and tobacco grumblers. "It is taking away their liberties."

If our people will improve the breed of sheep and increase the quantity, it will be of far more service than the issues now being agitated of the currency whether of national banks, greenbacks or coin.

Wool will be a basis of wealth equal to gold and silver, and will fill up the farmer's time in the care and protection of his flocks far better than in going to the hustings to hear some lean politician blab of inflation or of contraction, as there is nothing to contract the product to the sheep grower but the dogs, and they are like a large number of our wircurrency politicians—are after the pelf.

Sheep grazing commends itself to our people with great force, inasmuch as it is a means of restoring a large area of lands that are now turned out as worthless, and to a stranger visiting our country, it tends to depreciate the value of our lands in productiveness.

There is no use in saying East Tennessee can not produce feed for sheep as well as Ohio, Indiana and even Mexico, as I do know from experience and close observation of thirty years. If our people will study geology and chemistry (as is now provided by law for our common schools) they can fertilize the soils of East Tennessee with lime (which is cheaper here than in any other part of the world) and produce grass with equal results, as in Kentucky. It is a trifle more trouble to furnish the same amount of fertilizers from our lime stones, although they have been under mole heat, consequently, to some extent, crystallized. But there is no "excellency without great labor."

Now, grasses and sheep, with improved breeds of ewes—Jerseys, and Short Horns and Devons crossed upon our native, wiry native scrub, will soon change the whole aspect of East Tennessee, and increase our products. This is business with our farmers, and if my proposition is not true I have been groping in the hills of East Tennessee with no purpose, and will admit I do not know what the application of lime can do. Go ask a man from Western New York (a lime stone district, like ours) why they put on to their land 20 to 30 bushels of slacked lime per acre, when the lime stone, like a large portion of ours, crops out above the surface; go ask, as I did the other day, an indigent Southern cotton planter from Georgia, who was traveling with his whole family in Tennessee, with every appliance of wealth and prosperity, what had enabled him to overcome the loss of negroes, property, &c., by the late war? He will tell you—guano, barn dirt, phosphate fertilizer; any name you give it, lime is the basis. It has restored his exhausted lands and enabled him to raise corn, wheat, grass, potatoes, &c., that he could feed his laborers on, for one-tenth the cost of importing his bread from East Tennessee. In fact, he was independent of Tennessee, except for mules, as he could get bacon from Cincinnati for less than from Tennessee. The demand for sheep is now greater than for any period in thirty years, and still the value

of sheep is not in proportion to cattle, hogs, or mules—as purchased in Ohio, Indiana or Kentucky. Wheat, corn and hogs do not now pay us in competition with those States, and the common law of self-preservation must induce us to seek those sources of production as will enable us to pay our taxes, as in the present low condition of our finances as a State, taxes must come or the other alternative of repudiation ensue.

The State of Tennessee, the home of a Jackson, a Polk, and a Johnson, must not lose, Mississippi, be black-balled in all the great money centers of the world. East Tennessee, has got the climate, the soil, and all other elements of extended productiveness and if our people will only "Try," as "Miller" did at the battle of Lundy's Lane, she can do her part. Middle and West must do theirs, as we are now engaged in every effort to immigration, which will be the means of increasing their products four fold. Now if we in East Tennessee can not get help, we must help ourselves, and the main question is how shall we do it, as the thing must be done; more industry, more economy, more sheep will do much.

Where is the man that can't enjoy life with pigs feet at ten cents a dozen?

CHANCERY
SALE OF A LOT.

No. 755.
C. L. Carpenter and wife vs. S. T. Atkin et al.
PURSUANT TO A DECREE PRONOUNCED in the above cause at the October term, 1875, I will sell in front of the Court House door in Knoxville, at public auction to the highest bidder, On Saturday, the 18th day of December Next, at 11 o'clock A. M.,

The lot mentioned and described in the pleadings, lying and situate on the East side of the Knoxville bridge, the foot of day street, in the city of Knoxville, Tennessee, bounded on the North by Front street, on the East by the part of the lot owned by R. King, on the South by land owned by J. J. Sanborn, and on the West by same county bridge.

TERMS:
Said sale will be made upon a credit of six months, and in full of the equity of redemption, taking from the purchaser a note with good security therefor.
M. L. PATTERSON, C. M.
November 17, 1875—xviii

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